

HB 466 -- Child Restraint Systems

Co-Sponsors: Dusenberg, Avery, Riback Wilson (25), Sutherland, Threlkeld, Yates, Schaaf, Cooper (155)

This bill revises the law pertaining to child passenger restraints and seat belts. The bill:

- (1) Requires children less than four years old, regardless of weight, or who weigh less than 40 pounds, regardless of age, to be secured in a child passenger restraint system;
- (2) Requires children four to six years old or weighing 40 to 65 pounds or less than four feet nine inches in height to be secured in a child passenger restraint system or booster seat;
- (3) Requires children at least seven years old or weighing at least 65 pounds to be secured by a vehicle safety belt;
- (4) Requires car rental agencies doing business in Missouri to inform customers of the requirements of the bill and to provide an appropriate child passenger safety restraint system;
- (5) Exempts public carriers for hire or school buses from restraint requirements, unless a school bus has been equipped with safety belts or is required to be equipped with safety belts by federal motor vehicle safety standards; and
- (6) Requires the Department of Public Safety to develop a public information program to ensure compliance with child passenger safety restraint laws.

The bill has an effective date of January 1, 2004.